



THE ASHBY TOWN PUMP

VOL. 1

AUGUST, 1944.

NO. 3

As the war grinds on and upwards into a crescendo that we hope will burst with overwhelming force on an ever weakening enemy, we at home pause to reflect on our efforts and living during wartime.

Our prime topic of conversation is, of course, YOU who are serving. "What d'ya hear from 'Joe'?"--"Boy, are they really moving, now!" Those are the remarks that start an endless chain of incidents and heresay that have involved our sons, brothers, cousins, or friends. Often as not, the discussion is concluded with a hope that - " 'Tom' will be home for Thanksgiving or Xmas- well maybe his birthday."

As trivial as our troubles may be at home, they loom large and foreboding as our tempers or money get short. Who ever heard of paying 50¢ for a quart of blueberries -- in Ashby of all places,-- or even 60¢ for strawberries? Imagine in this land of plenty- pork, pork everywhere and not a steak in sight; one package of cigarettes to a customer; and sorry, no ice cream this week. 16 points for one pound of butter-- that's a week's supply of meat points --, and say, did you ever try to get a tire certificate from the ration board, or better yet, try to buy a pair of rubber panties for little Joe? A good drink is now a fleeting memory, and it sure would be a treat to drive in for that double-header the Red Sox are playing Sunday.

Trivial, isn't it? And yet if

we didn't beef about those things, it would be politics - and the Lord forbid that. Yet in spite of our complaining, we are faring well, and proud of the job we are doing for you. Our farms are producing to their limited capacities, and our neighboring industrial cities of Fitchburg, Loominster, Gardner and Worcester are producing at their greatest rate in history. Fitchburg itself by producing guns (105 and 155 m.m.), armor plate, turbines, shell fuses, critical paper and textiles, has earned itself a place of honor in our Total War Production.

We are proud of our Ashby boys and girls who have participated in the great invasion of France. As far as we know, Clarence & Warren Elliott, Rudy Salo, Toivo Leibeck, John Arenius, Edwin Tiilikala, Miss Dorothy Bernhardt and Harold Jackson, Barbara Bennett's husband are there, and probably others too, whom we've not yet heard from.

Dorothy wrote that she is living in a tent once again. Poor "Dotty" is hungry per usual and hopes her folks will take notice and do something about it.

Rauni Honkala has returned from Burbank Hospital after being operated upon. Rauni hopes to join the service soon.

Marjorie Bennett was simply amazed when she received the first issue of the Town Pump and heard of the many, many Ashby boys in the service. So far the only friend Marjorie has met in her locality was Bud Piper. There was no 4th of July celebration on Fiji Island, but Marjorie wrote that she does hope to be able to ring the Ashby Church bells next 4th of July.

The Piper boys really had a reunion for at the same time that Arnie was home, Cpl. Richard Piper from Westover Field, Mass. and Sgt. Malcolm Piper from Miami, Florida were here at home.

Arnold Piper S 1/c, stationed at Pensacola, Florida spent a leave with his family, Mr. & Mrs. Walter Piper on Main St. He and his wife have now returned to the Naval base where she is employed in the Airplane hangars. While home on furlough, Arnie played ball with his old team at G.E.

Recently Shirley Wass was home on week end leave from Chelsea Naval Hospital with her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Wass. As her guests, she had two other WAVES and a Naval Corpman.

Mark Thatcher of Main St. has been inducted into the Army. He was temporarily stationed at Fort Devens and while there was able to have a weekend pass and be with his family in Ashby. He is now stationed at Camp Blanding, Fla.

Edwin Walker has now been inducted into the Merchant Marine, reported to Sheepshead Bay, Long Island for his primary training, and is now on a boat off Baltimore. Robert Varney expects to join him shortly.

A Christmas package that was mailed from Ashby nearly nine months ago has finally been delivered to its owner here at home. Last Oct. 11 Mrs. Wilkinson mailed a package containing several Xmas gifts to her son, Raymond, who was a member of the Marine Corp stationed somewhere in the Pacific

war area. Before the package could be delivered, the young Marine was returned to the west coast. He remained in California several weeks before being discharged and sent to his home in Ashby. Apparently the package had been following him for on July 1st it arrived back here to be delivered to young Wilkinson, after its trip of several thousand miles. The package was in good condition.

T/S Merrick Pillsbury, son of Mrs. Laura Pillsbury, has been in several battles in the Italian campaign according to word received by his mother.

Mr. & Mrs. Luther H. Hayes were happily surprised one day recently when Sgt. Paul LeBlanc U.S.M.C.R., a buddy of their son Cpl. Luther H. Hayes U.S.M.C.R., called on them as he had promised Luther when he left the South Pacific war area last month. Sgt. LeBlanc, a native of Waltham, has been associated with young Hayes ever since they enlisted together on January 10, 1942. They belonged to the same platoon and fought together on Guadalcanal and Cape Gloucester and was with Cpl. Hayes when he was wounded. Sgt. LeBlanc told the parents many interesting stories of the islands and fighting conditions in the Pacific war area. What pleased them most was that Luther's health was good and had stood the ordeal of war surprisingly well.

He has been awarded the Purple Heart for his injury sustained at Cape Gloucester December 30, 1943.

The home folks sure do appreciate the courtesies of those who are fortunate enough to get home on a furlough, to communicate with the parents of those that they have seen or known that have not been home.

The parents of "Fuzzy" Foresman were delighted to receive a telephone call from Schnectady, N.Y. from Glen Pratt who joined up in the Navy with "Fuzzy" and has been on duty with him in the Pacific Area. It sure is nice to hear first

hand from one who has recently left the presence of one's own son or daughter.

Mrs. George W. Holmes, South Village, has received word that her son P.F.C. Ernest Holmes has been awarded the Purple Heart as a result of wounds received during the Normandy Campaign. After treatment in France, he was evacuated to a hospital in England.

Herman D. Jones M.M. 2/c writes of visiting a Red Cross Servicemen's Club in Naples. The club occupies five floors. There are pool tables, ping pong tables, writing room, music room, shower room and barber shop. It has a snack bar in the basement, in fact everything to meet the needs of servicemen. He also says the Red Cross are doing a grand job feeding the poor children in Italy who are without food. Herman Jones is the husband of the former Ethel Evans.

John Damon S 2/c is attending the Naval electricians school at Jacksonville, Florida.

A/S Ralph A. Curran was recently graduated from the Michigan College of Mining & Technology and is now about to leave Minter Field, Bakersfield, California, where he has been training in the "air crew" for Santa Anna, California where he will receive his flight training.

Johnnie Johnson has written from Hawaii of the excellent entertainment the boys have received. One weekend alone they were treated to Bob Hope and Frances Langford on a Saturday night. Then on Sunday the Army Air Force played at the Hawaii Stadium. Joe DiMaggio and Mike McCormick were on the winning team.

Miss Ina Jalava, a former Ashby girl, has joined the American Red Cross and is now in training in Washington.

Waino O. Posola of Jewett Hill Rd. has been home on a 12 day furlough from South Carolina. He

said he thoroughly enjoyed the Town Pump.

Aura Louhi, John Johnson, Paul Heikela, Freddie Erickson, and Leonard Hayes have all written us expressing their enjoyment of the newsletter.

Robert Jarvi has written of the extreme heat out there in Norman, Oklahoma and longs for the cool Ashby breezes.

Roland Pillsbury S 1/c has arrived in Africa according to a letter received by his mother, Mrs. Laura Pillsbury. He has been advanced to Seaman 1/c and is serving on a L.S.T. boat.

Leon D. Evans R.T. 2/c and wife are spending a 10 day leave at the White Mountains.

LETTERS TO TOWN PUMP

Your Town Pump Committee is highly gratified by letters received from our "suscribers" everywhere.

Writes Pvt. Robert Goguen: "...to thank you for the editions of the Ashby Town Pump. It certainly was swell to read what's going on in my home town. Was very surprised to hear where some of my home town buddies are. I returned from the hospital in time for the big attack in which we took Rome... I visited Saint Peter's Cathedral and also saw the Pope... all the famous ruins of the city, things I learned in my history class in Lyman School. The beauty of Vatican City is beyond description. Also, met my cousin... 2nd Lt. Nurse... sure swell seeing her even if she was a 2nd Lt. Have seen a lot of combat. We got a nickname, we Infantry men, -- "Dogface".

Robert illustrates in his letter a "Dogface" and also illustrates standing in Chow Line with his can of C-Ration Stew.

From Cpl. Luther Hayes: "...must take the time to let you know how much I appreciated reading the

Town Pump. I think it is a grand idea...it has proven a great success...of course, the write-ups of my buddies are the main items of interest. It is heartening to read that they are all well and keeping the town spirit alive on all fronts. Good work, mates; keep it up and we will be in for a grand celebration."

And one from S/Sgt. Eino Malm... "just received your first edition of the news-letter... very interesting and I enjoyed it very much... haven't met anyone from our vicinity...they are probably spread out among the islands...the native "hula" has taken back seat to the mainland "jitterbug", due, no doubt, to the influence of the American soldier. "

The home folks wish you all the best of luck, We hope you all are using your "influence" on jitterbugging and everything that helps in making some happiness for you.

Cpl. Richard Wilkinson writes; "We are covering a lot of ground. (I should say water.) I figure we have traveled over 19000 miles in less than 12 weeks. Some distance, considering the slow speed we make, compared to an automobile or train. Visited Algiers and stopped to listen to a Mohammedan ritual of worship. Nearby, I saw an Arab Medicine Man who was trying to sell his herb mixtures to the ring of Arabs around him.

Rudy Salo writes us from France: "Received the Town Pump, the June edition which I believe is your first, and for God's sake let it not be the last. It is the best newspaper in the world. It made me sort of sad, but laugh too. I read it to a bunch of boys here, it made them laugh also, saying they wished they had something like it in their home town. Here in France I helped one farmer with his haying for about 3 hours, and he had some good cider. Here they drink cider with their meals as we do coffee. Have not been doing too badly here. The other day I was sharpening an axe when a piece of shrapnel landed

about 8 feet from me. I was so scared, that without noticing it, I swallowed my chewing tobacco."

Then, from Hertford, North Carolina, Ted (Goldie) Haavisto's wife writes that Goldie is stationed at Harvey Pt. They have a 15 month old son, Ted, Jr. She wrote "Ted and I want you to know how really swell we think the "Town Pump" is."

You may well remember Martha Mossman, Leslie's daughter, and sister to John. She is now a Red Cross Staff Assistant, helping to set up and maintain Red Cross clubs somewhere in Italy. Martha drives here and there in a jeep, and is enjoying her work in spite of all the difficulties.

We received a grand letter from Waldemar Tiilikkala, so telling how, due to the news he received thru the Town Pump, he hoped to get together with Fuzzie Foresman, John Johnson and Kenneth Tofft, as they are all in the same neighborhood.

Sgt. Everett Troworgy is spending a weeks furlough at his home on Main Street. Ev is keeping house all by himself as his folks are away. We found him doing his laundry and Ev said that was ONE day he wished he had a wife.

Town Clerk, Arthur L. Wass, has already received a few applications for Absent Voting Ballots from members of the armed forces, for the November election. The application for the Absent Voting Ballot may be made by the voter himself, or by a relative who is eligible to make application. Application should be made as early as possible as the ballots are expected to be ready for mailing about Aug. 15.

Applications for ballots for men and women in the armed services who are not registered, and who will be 21 years of age by November 7 next, may be made by next of kin under the provisions of the 1943 statute. Next of kin shall mean spouse,

father, mother, sister or brother, son, daughter, uncle or aunt, niece or nephew, or adopted parents.

Mr. Wass has the necessary forms at his office and will gladly assist relatives in filling them out.

The editors present the following poem, which was submitted anonymously, and prefer to with-hold all comment.

THE TOWN PUMP

A little group of Ashby folk
With lots of public spirit,
Convened one night and talked at length
About a plan of merit.

If Boston has its Post and Globe,
And New York has its Sun,
We'll start an Ashby scandal sheet
That's second unto none.

We have no William Randolph Hearst
Nor any Horace G.,
But we will have an editor
Who knows his A B C.

We needn't hunt so very far,
He's right on hand, indeed
His parents named him "Ed" because
They knew just what we'd need.

He cannot edit all alone,
On this we're most insistent,
He must appoint his better half
To be his first assistant.

To Carrie goes the toughest job,
The record work, it means,
Of soldiers and the sailor boys,
The WAGs, WAVES and Marines.

Then next will come the sporting
page,

It really isn't tough,
So Luther, grab your fountain pen
And fake a lot of stuff.

Of course we'll have a woman's
page,

How could you ever doubt it?
So when you read what Bernie writes
You'll never do without it.

Good publications, such as this,
At times, must be quite critical,
So Fred and Martha write of things
Religious and political.

At last the most important part,
An arduous task and solemn;
We'll all pitch in and help to
write

The Scandalmongers column.

SCHOOL NEWS

Summertime is the proverbial vacation time for school, that is at least to all but George Elliott. The interior of the Ashby School has started to gleam and glisten as new paint and varnish is applied and windows washed. The desks, tops, scraped, sanded and varnished, present a tempting target for the first initials and workings in the coming September. The teachers' room, the Nurse's room have been completely refinished. The commercial room has been moved to the west end of the first floor to make room for the Junior and Senior high school classes on the second floor. It is hoped that the two basement playrooms will be painted before school opens, and of more particular interest to the older boys is the new manual training room which is taking shape and for which many tools are now being received.

The 85 percent of school children who depend on transportation from their homes will be assured of safe passage as new three year contracts have been awarded the same bus drivers as formerly; Fred Bernhardt, Sr., Mrs. Vera Keyes, Sulo Mickola, Ned Piper and Eino Pernaa.

BIRTHS

A son, Thomas Warren Cutting, was born to Gerald A. and Helen (Lamoureux) Cutting on July 14, 1944.

24510

DEATHS

Cornelius Caton died in Ashby July 1, 1944 age 76 years, 11 months, 2 days.

MARRIAGES

John Wolti of Lebanon, N.H. and Hilma Dickley (Matti) of Ashburnham married in Ashby, July 1, 1944 by Arthur L. Wass, Justice of the Peace.

Leo John Glickman and Maybel Rose Kirkwood, both of Fitchburg, married at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton A. Eaton, Fitchburg State Road, Ashby, July 4, 1944 by Arthur L. Wass, Justice of the Peace.

Rachel N. Whitney, daughter of Mrs. Lena Whitney, Main St., Ashby, was married in Boston, March 18, 1944 to Frederick H. Lawrence, U.S.N. of Lunenburg, Mass.

Of special interest to many of our readers who know Bob Pollock is his marriage on June 24 to Miss Muriel Settle, an Instructor at Burbank hospital. The bride's home is in Shrewsbury. Bob's base is now at Norfolk, Va.

SOMEONE MAY LIKE HIM

Thrift Shop Rummage Sale on Friday and Saturday. Good chance to get rid of everything not worth keeping but too good to throw away. Bring your husband.

Harold Doolittle has closed out his business and residence in town and with his family, Betty and Gordon are staying temporarily with her folks in E. Jaffrey, and his in Montague, Vt. prior to their leaving for Arizona. We just won't figure that the Doolittles have left us for good. Harold didn't dispose of the nice building lot he owns in Ashby, and it is hoped by him and all his family and friends, that some day in the not too distant future, his home will rise over that lot.

Their auction was attended by a large crowd of enthusiastic buyers. Automobiles were parked all along

the near by roads and even on the common. It was an unusually successful auction of a large variety of the better grade of household furnishings and other items from pin to pulpits. Harold even sold his shirts. The congenial and courteous association of the family will be missed by all.

Supper was served to 100 or more persons at the Congregational church Wednesday evening by a committee under the chairmanship of Walter E. Piper. After supper a program of songs, playlets and recitations was presented by girls attending Camp Middlesex and Camp Lapham. Miss Gold, assistant director of Camp Lapham explained some of the activities at the camp. A talk on "News of the Nation", a recently published history of the United States in tabloid form, was given by its creator, Sylvan Hoffman, a summer resident of Ashby. Walter E. Woodruff was in charge of the program.

WHALOM FIRE

Fire of undetermined origin swept a large part of the midway at Whalom Park early on the morning of July 22 causing injury to two men and property damage estimated at \$ 50,000.

The fire started in the bowling alleys and quickly spread to the other buildings. Buildings leveled by the fire are; Bowling Alleys ; dodgem concession; small cottage; penny arcade; and pretzel ride; bumper game and ball game. The damage was partly covered by insurance.

GRANGE

About 100 persons attended the recent picnic of the Ashby Grange at the camp of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Mason at Ward Pond. Another picnic is planned at the Walter Irish home, Rindge Road, Fitchburg.

DEATHS

Corneilus Carter died in Ashby
July 1, 1944 age 76 years, 11 months,
5 days.

MARRIAGES

John Wolf of Lebanon, N. H. and
Hilma Dickiey (Nest) of Ashbury-
ham married Monday, July 1, 1944
by Arthur L. Jones, Justice of the Peace.

Leo John Glickman and Marjorie Rose
Kirkwood, both of Ashburyham, married
at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton
A. Eaton, Pleasant Street, Ashbury-
ham, July 1, 1944 by Arthur L. Jones,
Justice of the Peace.

Rachel M. Whitney, daughter of
Mrs. Lena Whitney, Main St., Ashbury-
ham, was married in Boston, Mass., July 1,
1944 to Frederick H. Lawrence,
U. S. N. of Ashburyham, Mass.
Of special interest to many of
our readers who know Bob Follick
is his marriage on June 24 to Miss
Hazel Seale, an Ashburyham
Barnstable hospital. The bride's
home is in Barnstable. Bob's
home is in Norfolk, Va.

SOMEONE MAY LIKE HIM

Thrill Shop Manager, George W. W.
day and Saturday, good chances
get rid of everything not worth
keeping but too good to throw away.
Bring your husband.

WEDDING

Harold Doolittle and Gladys
his business and residence in town
and with his family, Betty and
don't see anything particularly
her folks in the town, and his
in Montague, Vt. prior to their
leaving for Ashburyham just weeks
ago. Gladys Doolittle has
left us for good. Harold Doolittle
disposes of his business building
he owns in Ashburyham, and he
by his and Gladys' family and
friends, that some of the
too distant friends, Ashburyham
also over that lot.
Their wedding was celebrated by
large crowd of Ashburyham friends.
Ashburyham were packed off along

the rear by roads and over on the
common. It was an unusually suc-
cessful meeting of a large vari-
ety of the better grade of house-
hold furnishings and other items
from aim to multiples. Harold even
sold his shirts. The congenial
and courteous association of the
family will be missed by all.

WEDDING

Supper was served to 100 or
more persons at the Congregational
Church, Wednesday evening by a
committee under the leadership
of Mrs. H. E. Fisher.
After supper a program of songs,
pianists and vocalists were
presented by Alice Armstrong,
Camp Middleman and Camp Deborah.
Miss Gold, assistant director of
Camp Deborah explained some of the
activities at the camp. A talk
on "How of the Nation" was given
by published history of the Uni-
ted States in simplified form, was
given by the speaker, Sylvia Holt.
After a short residence of Ashbury-
ham, E. Woodbury was in charge
of the program.

WEDDING

Two of the most interesting
events of the week of the wedding
at Ashburyham, on the morn-
ing of July 22, a large number of
two men and property damage
amounted at \$20,000.
The fire started in the bowling
alley and quickly spread to
other buildings. Building level
ed by the time the fire was
brought down. The damage was
colossal; many records and prop-
erty lost; bumper game and bill-
iards. The damage was partly cov-
ered by insurance.

GRANGE

About 100 persons attended the
recent picnic of the Ashby Grange
at the camp of Mr. and Mrs. Fisher
near the West Pond. Another pic-
nic is planned for the winter Irish
night, Kings Road, Ashburyham.

There is a
large crowd of Ashburyham friends
and Ashburyham were packed off along

RED CROSS

An appeal for more workers on / surgical dressings is made by Mrs. Chester Hopkins, the new chairman, as a call for 50,000 dressings has been made by the Chapter Chairman, Mrs. Dooling of Fitchburg.

Mrs. Myron Harris called for more help in making 150 kit bags. This also was an emergency call and resulted in enough workers to keep 7 sewing machines going and the quota nearly completed.

BAND CONCERT

Judging by the reports from the refreshment booth at the band concerts the crowds that come to listen to the band are thirsty and hungry. On a recent Friday evening 600 bottles of tonic and nearly 60 lbs. of hot dogs and hamburg were sold by Mrs. Wilkinson, Mrs. Bernhardt and Mrs. Arthur Loveland. That surely is big business for this small town.

But the band, larger than ever before, is playing to enthusiastic and appreciative crowds. In fact, the enthusiasm extends to the players themselves as we hear that "Gippy", our talented drummer, became so interested in the march being played that one of his drumsticks penetrated his drum head. Nevertheless, people come miles to see and hear Walter play.

Mrs. Helen Bailey is taking Rev. Herbert Balcom's place as a member of the contributing committee of the Town Pump.

We've had two calamities in town recently, both requiring Dr. Djerf's rushing to the scene. Ero Malce of Wright Road broke his wrist while cranking his car, and Mrs. Thomas Leibeck suffered a broken arm when she fell down the stairs at her home on New Ipswich Road.

The Anzolut home on South Road has been sold to Wilfred Bedard, the new proprietor of the Red and White store.

BILLIE SEYMOUR, FATHER, AND DOG. BOBBIE TACKLE A SKUNK

Several evenings ago they discovered that all was not well in the vicinity of the hen house and its yard. Taking a flashlight and several implements of warfare, all three started out to investigate. As they drew near, the Latin word, "aroma", best describes what they were about to combat. Billie held the flash-light, but sometimes pretty wobbly, as there are times in cornering this certain animal, when you wish to retreat. Consequently, it was hard to keep it "on the beam" but Bobbie, the dog, who has quite a reputation for killing wood-chucks had no qualms as to after-effects.

He got busy right away and somehow got the skunk right by the nose and did he hang on. The skunk was on the inside of the yard and Bobbie was on the outside of the yard. He never let go, but pulled and pulled until he pulled the skunk right through one of the round openings in the hen wire. It was some tight squeeze and naturally they thought that that was the end of Mr. Skunk. All was quiet and peaceful the rest of the night, but there was a mystery the next morning. No skunk was there to be seen, yet his former presence was unquestionable.

Since the pastor of the Congregational Church left in June, supply ministers have conducted the services. The following have been here: Rev. Charles O. Eames of Icominster; Rev. E.J. Abare of Westminster; Rev. William Wild of Ashby; Rev. Felix Lion of Ashby and Methuen; and J.O. Miner of the Newton-Andover Theological School.

During a recent electrical storm a cow belonging to Victor Malm in South Village was struck by lightning and killed.

We have recently heard of a reunion of several Ashbyites, which was held down in Miami and extended over a week-end. Tom Hansen was given three days off from his ship in Key West---(rumor has it that his skipper wanted a little peace and quiet for several days and so ordered Tom to take this time off). Tom proceeded to Miami and looked up "Flash" Page, and "Flash" gave his C.P.O. a line about having an old buddy in Tom and so managed to get a week-end pass.

The two boys then hoisted anchor and got under way for Port Douglas, home port for Andy Hansen's ship, but arrived just as Andy was pulling out for a convoy job. So Tom and "Flash" about faced to Miami, saw the sights of the town and concluded their reunion with lively discussions of pros and cons of the home town girls and the Navy versus the Coast Guard.

CLIPPED FROM A PAPER IN PEARL HARBOR

I wish I was a "wittle" egg
Away up in a twee,
I wish I was a wittle egg
As wotten as can be
So when a mean ole sergeant
Would start to shout at me
I'd frow my wotten wittle self
And spatter down on he.

Mr. & Mrs. Leidy Rackliffe, Ashby State Road were given a surprise party at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Rackliffe in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary.

Harry Holander gave some of his homing pigeons a try out last week. He took 12 of them down to Ralph Rackliffe's on the State Road and released them. They circled round and then headed straight for home. Good work Harry, maybe Uncle Sam will be needing some of these birds.

SOLDIER ON LEAVE

He was a boy, proud and unconquered
Who swaggered at the village store
He would recount his young adventures,
But that was long before the war.

Now that he truly is a hero,
Part of that might, moving wall
That shields us from the hatred tyrants
He does not talk or boast at all.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU

Eino Malm	SEPT.	1
Robert Piper	"	4
Leslie Kincaid	"	7
Mark Thatcher	"	8
Robert Jarvi	"	11
Ruth Robbins	"	16
Arthur Hardy	"	20
Rudolph Salo	"	21
Roland Pillsbury	"	22

NEW BATTLE FRONT ?

At the Red and White Store
From the latest report
The steaks are all missing
And Hamburg is short.

We know it's not pleasant
To turn away trade,
But we can't seem to fancy
The substitute made.

We're hungry as wolves
But our appetites skid
When we find the chopped digits
Of Walt, Gordan and Sid.

Now that is aplenty,
It's time to retard,
We don't want the lamb logs
Of Bing. and Bedard.

If we are in error
Our remorse is profound
It may be you've opened
A new Battle-Ground.

*** PVT. JAMES DONALD CURRAN ***

It is with deep regret that we learn of the death of Pvt. James Donald Curran, son of Mr. & Mrs. James Curran. He was killed in action while fighting with the 6 th Marines in the South Pacific. He was attached to the Headquarters Company and had been in the Pacific area about six months.

Pvt. Curran entered the service in September, 1943 and received his training at Parris Island and New River N.C. He is survived by his wife, the former Toino Niemi, his parents, and two brothers, Ralph, an aviation cadet at Santa Ana, Cal. and Ernest who is at home.

Martha P. Mossman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.J. Mossman is in Italy at a huge air base near the Adriatic. She and two other Red Cross girls have set up an Officer's club, and an enlisted men's club and a snack bar. They operate these with the help of sixteen or seventeen Italian helpers and volunteers consisting of practically every enlisted man and officer in the vicinity. They provide all sorts of recreation, settle problems, sew on buttons, darn socks, hold heads, read and write letters, give advice on every subject known to man, and all in all mother hundreds of homesick and weary soldiers who are continuously shuttling back and forth on bombing runs.

On one ice cream day, they had served over a thousand men before four in the afternoon in addition to all their other little duties. The girls are on duty from about ten in the morning until all hours of the night. The temperature in the day time hovers around 125° accompanied by a hot wind and clouds of dust, and to add to their misery, the girls are rationed to one bath per week. Food in general is good, plenty of meat and vegetables but no eggs or milk or candy. The main point that Martha continually writes about is the lack of mail. She urges that everyone write to anyone they know in the armed service and write often. She says no one at home seems to realize just how much letters mean to these

boys and how eagerly they look for them and how bitterly disappointed they are when days go by and still no word from home. She says to write now to some one. Don't just plan on doing it, but DO IT NOW. You don't need to tell 'em that the sun is shining or it rained Thursday. Tell 'em the little every day homely things; the wasp that stung you where you didn't enjoy it; Gippy playing the Anvil Chorus; Doolittle selling out; Brindle's new calf; the swell job our Bond salesman did; the old friend you saw at the band concert and so on ad infinitum. Just the little things, and DO IT NOW !

The following is a continuation of the list of past or present residents of Ashby serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America;

Rene Goguen	Lester Hodgman
Robert Goguen	Allan Holmes
Paavo Haapala	Ernest Holmes
Theodore Haavisto	Robert Holmes
Toivo Haavisto	Roy Holmes
Andrew Hansen	Leo Henkala
Thomas Hansen	Chester Hopkins
Arthur Hardy	Robert Jarvi
Chester Hardy	William Hemlin
Leonard Hayes	Albert Johnson
Luther Hayes, Jr.	John Johnson
George Holander	Stanley Johnson
Paul Heikkila	Wallace Johnson
Raymond Heywood	Allen Kangas

